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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Former Japanese intelligence officer, from a Tokyo newspaper reporter.

1. OGATA Taketora is considered by some Japanese political interests as the most likely successor to Premier YOSHIDA Shigeru as chairman of the Liberal Party. He is strongly supported by KOSHIMA Kasuo (小島一男), YOSHIDA's adviser and special counselor, who has repeatedly stated that he is in favor of OGATA rather than MATOYAMA Ichiro.
2. OGATA is making a good-will tour of Southeast Asian countries for the purpose of obtaining first-hand information from Chinese residents in such places as Hong Kong and Singapore on their attitude towards Communist China and on Chinese Communist industrial and economic policies.
3. Among OGATA's contacts are TSUJI Masanobu and HATTORI Takushiro, and he is also in touch with TATSUMI Eiichi on the rearmament program.
4. OGATA was formerly editor in chief of the Asahi Shinbun and was chief of the government Propaganda and Information Bureau during World War II.
1. Field Comment. OGATA's tour has been widely publicized in the Japanese press. He is traveling as the personal representative of YOSHIDA and is the first official representative of the Japanese government to visit Hong Kong since the war. His first stop on the trip was Taipei.
2. Field Comment. Who's Who in Japan for 1939-1940 lists the following data concerning him: Journalist; managing director and editor-in-chief of Osaka and Tokyo Asahi Shinbun; second son of OGATA Michio, of Fukuoka-ken; married Koto, third daughter of HARA Makizo. Career: Graduated Waseda University, politics, 1911; section chief Tokyo Asahi; director Domai News Agency; Junior managing director Asahi Shinbun, since 1928. Address: 331 Ryukumin-machi 2-chome, Iidabashi-ku, Tokyo; telephone Iidobashi 1424. OGATA is not listed in Who's Who for 1950-51.

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